

## SB 1079 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Rules

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**Action Date:** 04/27/23

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and requesting referral to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Engrossed.)

**Vote:** 5-0-0-0

**Yeas:** 5 - Hansell, Knopp, Lieber, Manning Jr, Steiner

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Daniel Dietz

**Meeting Dates:** 4/27

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Joint Task Force on Hospital Discharge Challenges (Task Force). Specifies criteria for 22 members, including representatives of hospital and post-acute care facilities and workers, along with two nonvoting members of the Legislative Assembly. Directs the Task Force to develop recommendations to address challenges faced by hospitals in discharging patients to appropriate post-acute care settings. Specifies that recommendations may include reducing barriers to training and licensure for nurses and nursing assistants to work in post-acute care settings and improving connectivity between hospitals and post-acute care. Directs the Task Force to consider how recommendations relate to the needs of individuals who are experiencing homelessness or who lack stable housing. Directs the Legislative Policy and Research Office to review strategies in other states, and gather and analyze data provided by hospitals, post-acute care settings, and local and state agencies. Directs the Task Force to provide recommendations for administrative changes that do not require legislative action to the Governor and to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to health and human services on or before November 1, 2023. Directs the Task Force to make recommendations for legislative changes on or before December 15, 2023. Directs the Task Force to submit a final report with findings and recommendations on or before September 15, 2024. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

Beginning with the COVID-19 pandemic and continuing through April of 2023, Oregon hospitals have identified delays in discharge from inpatient care among the reasons why hospitals have operated at or above capacity ([link to Lund Report article](#)). Reasons for delays in discharge are complex and multifaceted and may include the complexity of the physical and behavioral health care needs of patients, lack of appropriate settings to meet those needs, workforce shortages in post-acute care settings, and misalignment of reimbursement models with care needs. Patients who experience homelessness or who lack stable housing may have different needs at the time they are discharged from acute and post-acute care.

Senate Bill 1079 A establishes the Joint Task Force on Hospital Discharge Challenges to develop recommendations to address the challenges faced by hospitals in discharging patients to appropriate post-acute care settings, reporting back to the Legislative Assembly in advance of both the 2024 and 2025 Legislative Sessions.